

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1- 7 cancelled

8. (new) A slide bearing material, comprising:

a metallic support layer; and

a lead-free bearing layer comprising densely sintered metallic powder particles, said powder particles consisting essentially of 9.5 to 11 weight % of tin, 7 to 13 weight % of bismuth, 0 to 4.0 weight % of zinc, the rest copper, and impurities of an overall amount of less than 1 weight %, wherein the powder particles have a bulbous shape, differing from a regular spherical shape, but without edges and undercuts.

9. (new) The slide bearing composite material of claim 8, wherein a grain size distribution of said metallic particles has a characteristic grain size of 40 to 75 μm or of 40 to 60 μm .

10. (new) The slide bearing composite material of claim 8, wherein a grain size distribution of said metallic particles is characterized by a shape parameter β of 1.2 to 2.6.

11. (new) The slide bearing material of claim 8, wherein said powder particles comprise 7 to 11 weight % of bismuth.

12. (new) The slide bearing material of claim 11, wherein said powder particles comprise 7.5 to 10 weight % of bismuth.

13. (new) The slide bearing material of claim 8, wherein said powder particles comprise 9.5 to 10.5 weight % of tin.

14. (new) A slide bearing bushing or shell, a connecting rod bearing bushing, a connecting rod bearing shell, or a main bearing shell, produced from the slide bearing composite material of claim 8.